

Disposition if owner  
fails to redeem.

"SEC. 3. If any such owner to whom compensation has been paid or a tender of compensation has been made shall fail, within a reasonable time after notice (which time shall be specified in the notice but may be extended by the Administrator) to make arrangements satisfactory to the Administrator for such return of the vessel or shall expressly waive the right thereto, the Administrator may advertise the vessel for sale upon competitive sealed bids subject to such terms and conditions as the Administrator may prescribe, including in the case of any vessel used in the commercial fisheries or industries related thereto immediately prior to the acquisition of such vessel by the United States, a requirement that the vessel will not be used for a period of two years from date of sale, other than in the commercial fisheries or industries related thereto: *Provided, however,* That the Administrator may reject any bid which does not equal the purchase price or compensation paid or payable by the United States for such vessel less a reasonable allowance to cover the cost of reconditioning as hereinabove defined.

Rejection of certain  
bids.

Deduction for ex-  
penses.

"SEC. 4. The Administrator may withhold from the funds received for the return or sale of any such vessel the expenses incurred by him in such return or sale, and shall pay over the balance of such receipts to the department or agency by which such vessel was made available."

Approved May 18, 1944.

#### [CHAPTER 200]

#### AN ACT

Relating to the appointment of postmasters.

May 20, 1944

[H. R. 1565]

[Public Law 306]

Postal Service.  
Appointment of  
postmasters.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That no postmaster at an office of the fourth class shall be required, in the event such office is advanced to the third class, to pass any competitive or noncompetitive examination as a condition to appointment or service as postmaster at the office so advanced; and no postmaster at an office of the third class shall be required, in the event such office is relegated to the fourth class, to pass any competitive or noncompetitive examination as a condition to appointment or service as postmaster at the office so relegated; and any postmaster or acting postmaster of the fourth or third class who has passed a civil-service examination at any time and has given service satisfactory to the Department may be reappointed without further civil-service examination.

Approved May 20, 1944.

#### [CHAPTER 201]

#### JOINT RESOLUTION

May 20, 1944

[H. J. Res. 280]

[Public Law 307]

Flood and wind-  
storm damage.  
Assistance to farm-  
ers.  
57 Stat. 542.

To provide assistance to farmers whose property was destroyed or damaged, in whole or in part, by floods and windstorms in 1944, in order to enable them to continue farming operations to produce food for the war effort.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the balance of the appropriation of \$15,000,000 made in the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, 1943, for 1943 flood restoration loans, is hereby also made available until June 30, 1945, to enable the Secretary of Agriculture, in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to make loans and grants to farmers whose property is destroyed or damaged by floods and windstorms (not to exceed \$1,000,000 in the

case of windstorms) in 1944 and to service loans made under such appropriation in connection with the 1943 floods: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,000,000 of such amount shall be used for grants.

Approved May 20, 1944.

[CHAPTER 202]

AN ACT

To regulate the furnishing of artificial limbs or other appliances to retired officers and enlisted men of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard and to certain civilian employees of the military and naval forces of the Regular Establishment.

May 23, 1944  
[H. R. 3176]  
[Public Law 308]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That section 4 of Public Law Numbered 198, Seventy-sixth Congress, approved July 19, 1939, as amended by Public Law Numbered 365, Seventy-seventh Congress, approved December 22, 1941, is hereby amended to read as follows:

53 Stat. 1070; 55  
Stat. 850.  
38 U. S. C., Supp.  
III, § 706b.

"SEC. 4. In the administration of laws pertaining to veterans, retired officers, and enlisted men of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, who served honorably during a war period as recognized by the Veterans' Administration, shall be, and are entitled to hospitalization and domiciliary care in the same manner and to the same extent as veterans of any war are now or may hereafter be furnished hospitalization or domiciliary care by the Veterans' Administration and subject to those provisions of paragraph VI (A) of Veterans Regulation Numbered 6 (c), which provide for reduction of monetary benefits to veterans having neither wife, child, nor dependent parent while being furnished hospital treatment, institutional, or domiciliary care.

Hospitalization and  
domiciliary care.  
Retired officers and  
enlisted men.

38 U. S. C. note foll.  
§ 724; Supp. III, note  
foll. § 732.

"Any retired officer or enlisted man of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, who lost a limb or the use thereof through injury or disease incurred or contracted in line of duty in the military or naval service at any time, may be provided with an artificial limb or other appliance found by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to be reasonably necessary in medical judgment for such injury or disease, including necessary transportation to effect the fitting thereof, upon receipt of claim under such regulations as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe. No commutation in lieu of such artificial limb or other appliance shall be payable on and after the date of this enactment."

Artificial limbs or  
other appliances.

SEC. 2. The United States Employees' Compensation Commission, under such regulations as the Commission may prescribe, is hereby authorized to furnish any civilian employee of the military or naval service, Regular Establishment, who lost a limb or the use thereof through injury or disease incurred or contracted in line of duty as such prior to September 7, 1916, with an artificial limb or other appliance, or commutation in lieu thereof, at least once in every three years, upon the application of the person entitled thereto, or someone on his behalf, including necessary transportation to effect the fitting thereof and the compensation fund, established pursuant to section 35 of the Act approved September 7, 1916 (U. S. C., title 5, sec. 785), shall be available for expenditures under this section: *Provided*, That the commutation payable to any civilian employee in lieu of such artificial limb or other appliance shall be in the amount last paid to such employee under laws repealed by section 3 of this Act.

Civilian employees  
of Military and Naval  
Establishments.  
Artificial limbs, etc.

39 Stat. 749.

Commutation in  
lieu thereof.